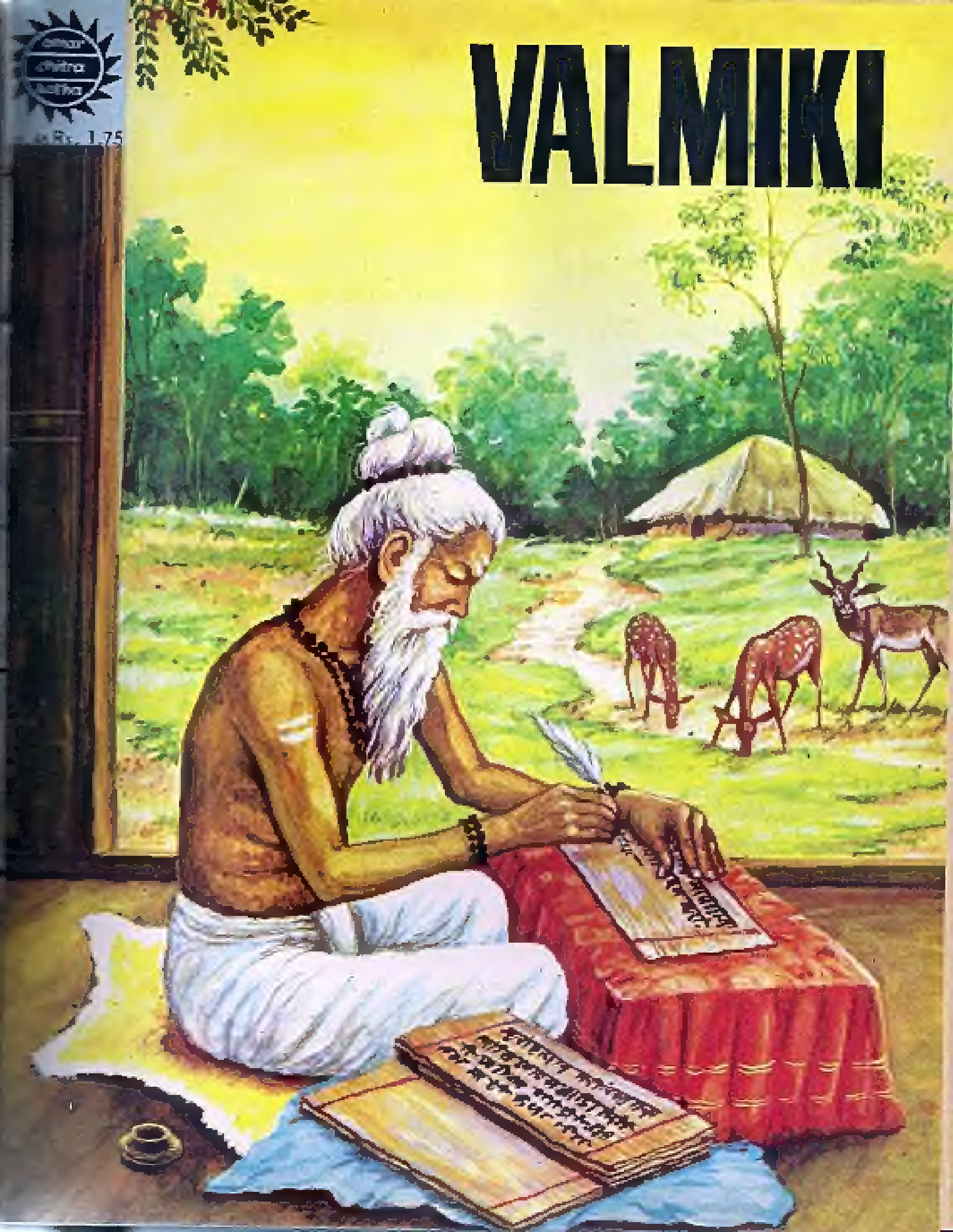




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VALMIKI

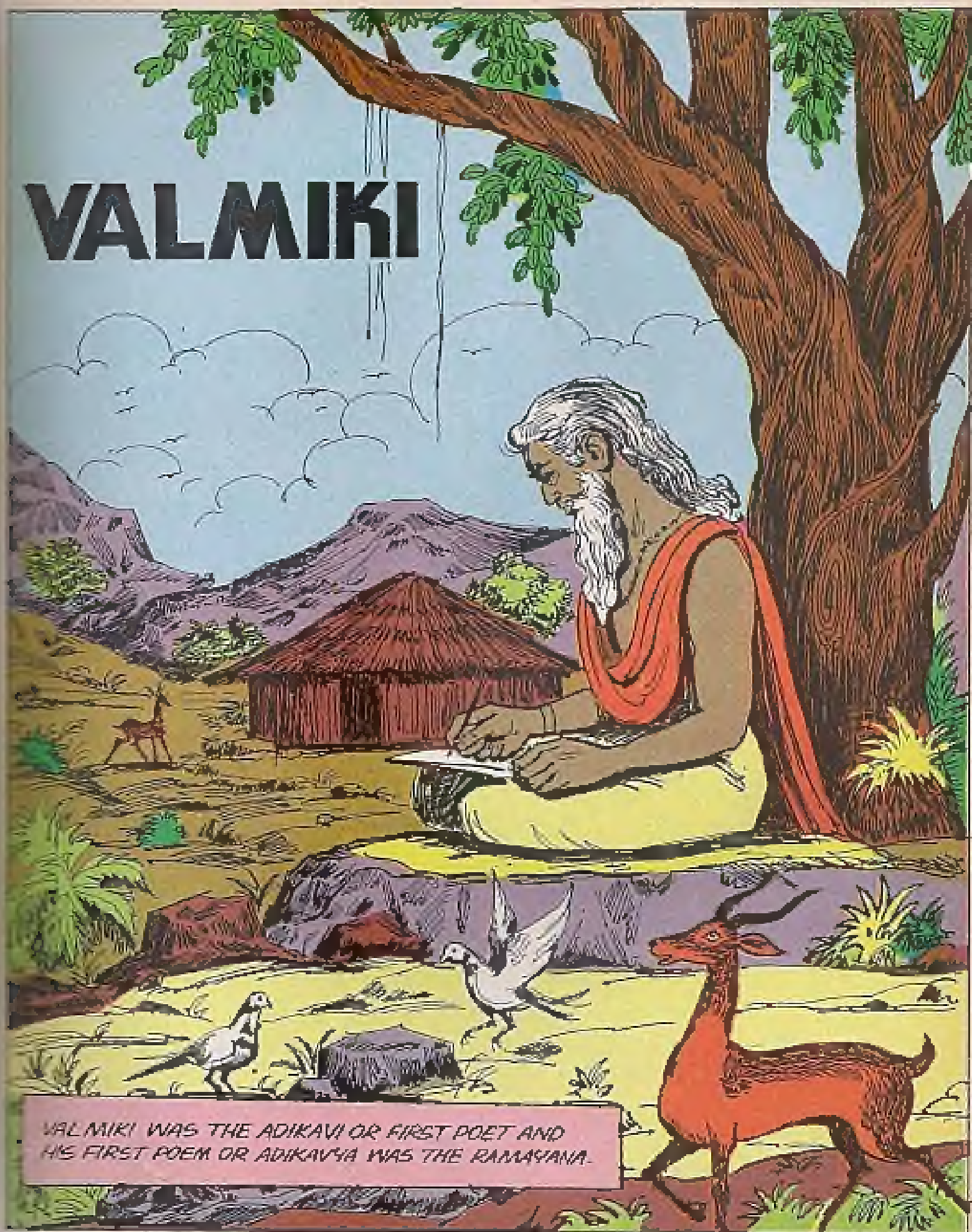


To Valmiki we, Indians, owe a deeper debt of gratitude than to any other poet. He gave us the Ramayana, one of the most fascinating stories of all time. No words can describe the hold the Ramayana has had on the people of India from ancient times to the present day. It has affected the life and thought of our people and played an important role in shaping Indian culture. Valmiki was the Adikavi, the first poet, and his Ramayana the Adikavya, the first poem. While remembering the man's work, we must not forget the man. How he wrote the Ramayana, and under what conditions, is itself an absorbing story. This version is based on Valmiki Ramayana and Vallathol's Malayalam translation.

SAYINGS OF VALMIKI

- The wise honour their guests even though they are of the common folk.
- Mind is the cause for the direction of all senses leading to good and evil acts.
- Cheer leads to prosperity. Cheer is happiness. All actions done with enthusiasm lead to good results.
- Honour the wives of others and protect them, O Ravana, as you will your own. Set an example by loving your own wife.
- Kindness is a supreme virtue.
- Great men when they undertake to do a great deed, are never upset.
- A man who has done both good and bad deeds cannot simultaneously reap the fruits thereof. He will enjoy for his good deeds and suffer for his sins only by turns.
- They are the blessed who, by their wisdom, can control their anger, even as water subdues a conflagration.
- Whoever does anything with enthusiasm rarely fails to achieve his object.

VALMIKI



VALMIKI WAS THE ADIKAVI OR FIRST POET AND
HIS FIRST POEM OR ADIKAVYA WAS THE RAMAYANA.

STRANGELY, VALMIKI WAS A HUNTER AND ROBBER IN HIS EARLY LIFE.



ROAMING THE JUNGLE HE SHOT DOWN HARMLESS BIRDS.



HE KILLED GENTLE ANIMALS...



...AND BROUGHT THE CARCASSES HOME FOR FOOD.



HE ALSO WAYLAID AND ROBBED LONE TRAVELLERS IN THE JUNGLE.



HAND OVER THAT BUNDLE OR ELSE I WILL KILL YOU.

HAVE MERCY, SPARE ME.



HERE IS TODAY'S LOOT.

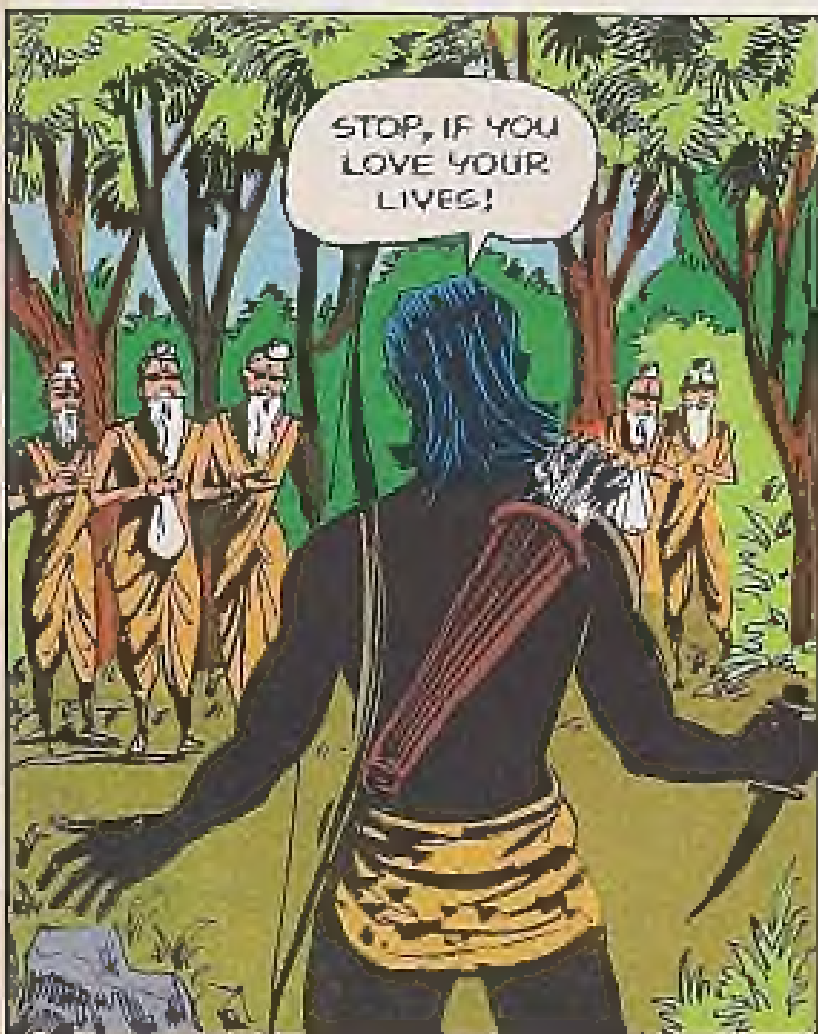
IS THAT ALL?



BE PATIENT. A GROUP OF RICH MERCHANTS WILL BE PASSING THROUGH THE JUNGLE TOMORROW.



THUS HE LIVED A LIFE OF VIOLENCE AND CRIME. ONE DAY HE SAW FROM A DISTANCE THE SAPTARISHIS OR SEVEN GREAT SAGES.

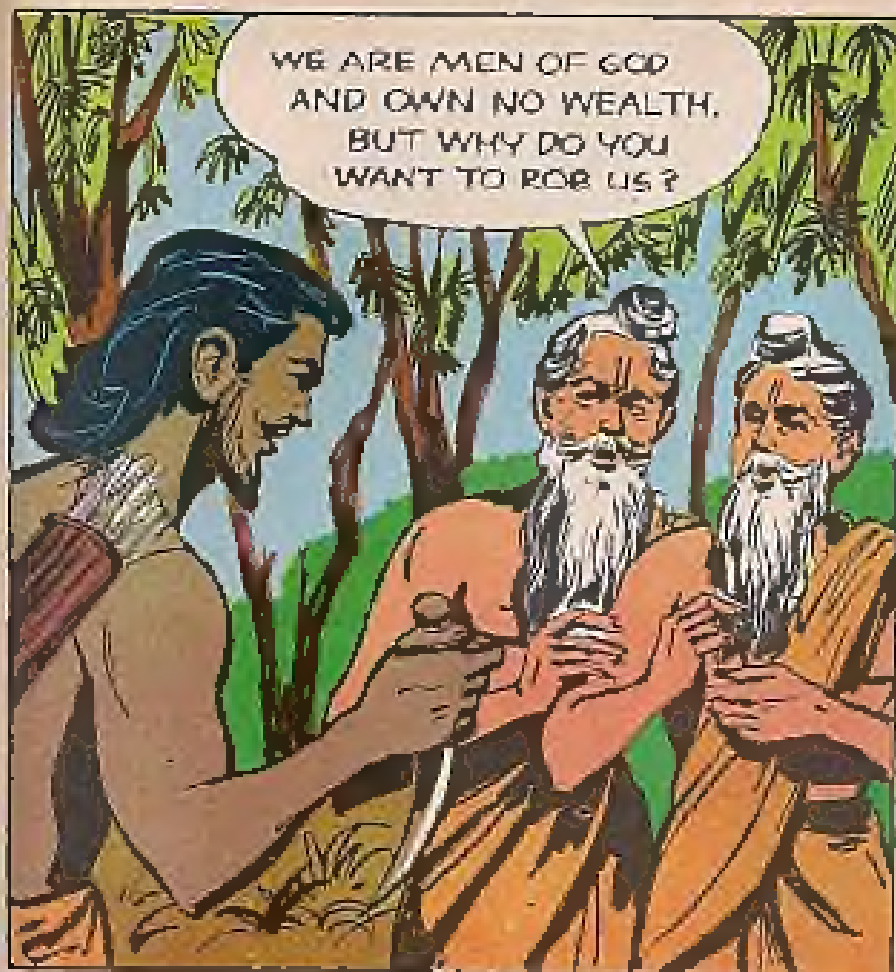



STOP, IF YOU
LOVE YOUR
LIVES!




WHAT
DO YOU
WANT?

ALL THE WEALTH
THAT YOU
HAVE ON YOU.




A close-up comic panel showing Adam on the left with a dark beard and hair, looking slightly away with a somber expression. God is on the right, an older man with a long white beard and hair, looking directly at Adam. Adam's hand is near his chest.

YOUR FAMILY LIVES ON THE FRUITS
OF YOUR SIN. WILL THEY PARTAKE
OF YOUR SINS AS WELL?

A wider comic panel showing Adam from behind on the left, wearing a loincloth and carrying a spear. God is on the right, looking towards Adam. They are in a garden with trees.

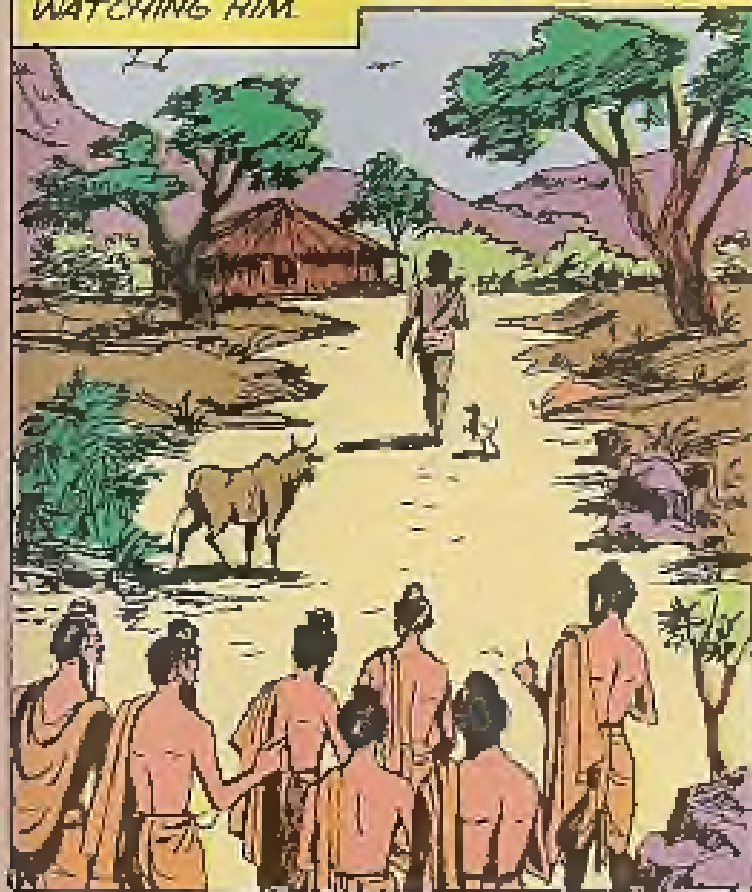
OF COURSE,
THEY WILL.

A comic panel showing God on the left, gesturing with his right hand towards Adam. Adam is on the right, looking back at God. Adam is holding a knife and a small object.

GO AND ASK THEM.
COME BACK WITH
THEIR ANSWER.

ALL RIGHT,
BUT IF YOU RUN
AWAY, I WILL MAKE
YOU PAY FOR IT.

THE ROBBER WALKED TOWARDS HIS HUT WHILE THE RISHIS STOOD WATCHING HIM.



INSIDE THE HUT.

DEAR WIFE, YOU BENEFIT FROM MY SINFUL LIFE. DON'T YOU?

OF COURSE, I DO. WHAT OF THAT?



YOU WILL SHARE MY SINS; WON'T YOU?



CERTAINLY NOT! YOU ARE THE SINNER. WHY SHOULD I SHARE YOUR SIN?



THE ROBBER TURNED HOPEFULLY TO HIS SON.



WON'T YOU AT LEAST SHARE MY SIN, MY DARLING?

NO FATHER, I WILL NOT.

THE ROBBER COULD NOT BELIEVE HIS EARS. HE STOOD STUNNED AND DAZED.



OH, MY GOD!

BENDING UNDER THE WEIGHT OF SORROW, HE WENT OUT WITH FALTERING STEPS.



LOOK, THERE HE COMES.

AS HE CAME NEAR THE V. HE WENT
INTO THEM



WHAT DO
THEY TELL
YOU?

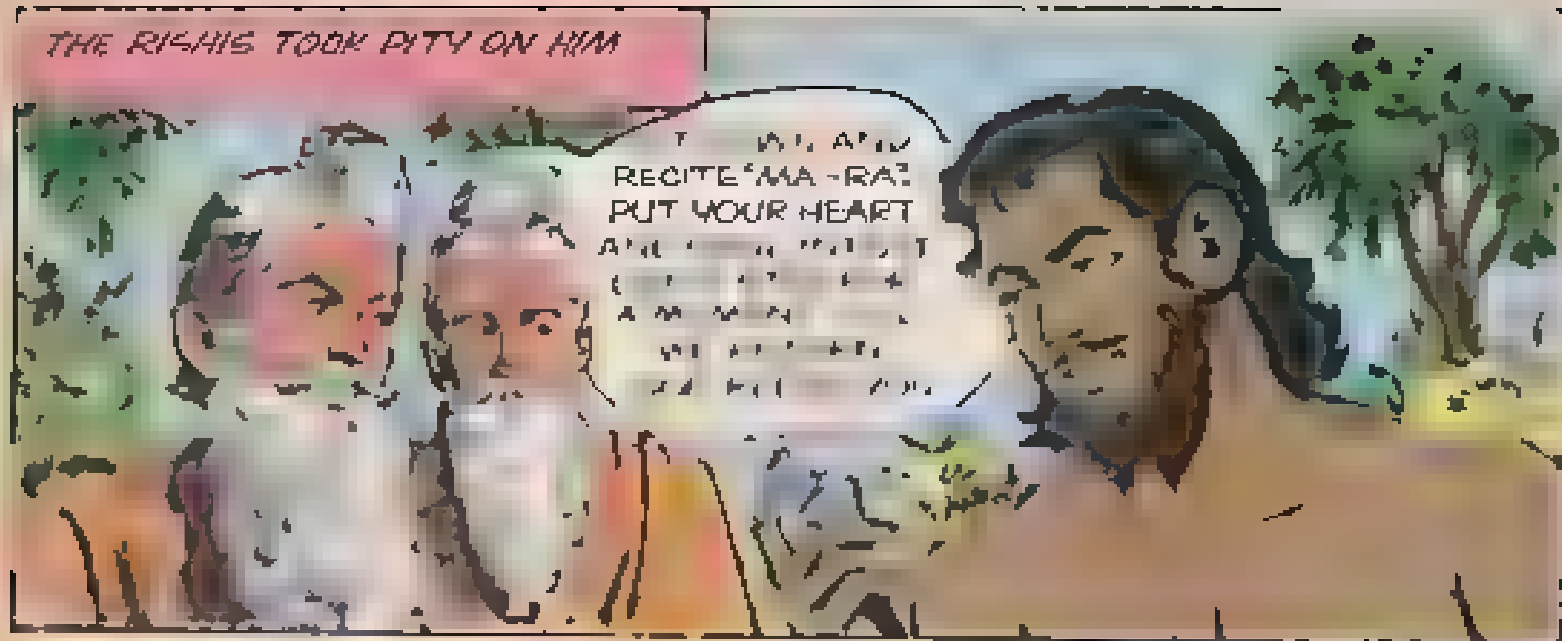


MAKING A LOT
OF MONEY TO
CARE FOR THE
CITY



THE RISHIS TOOK PITY ON HIM

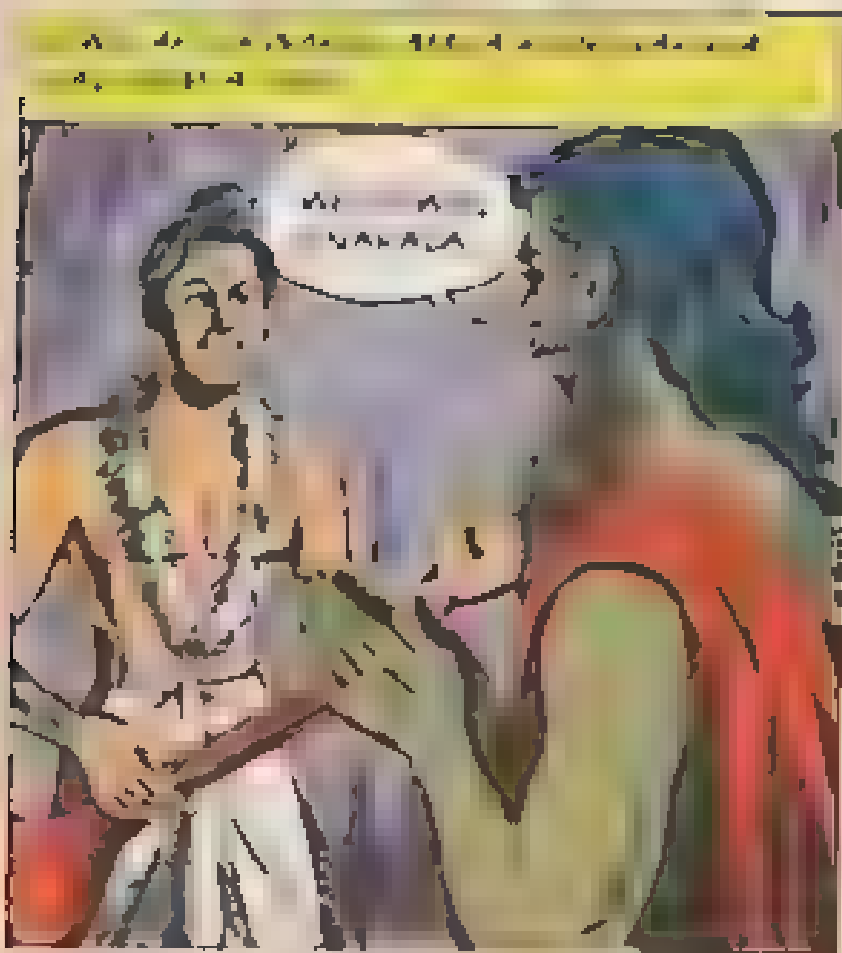
T W, AIN
RECITE 'MA-RA'
PUT YOUR HEART
AND MIND INTO IT
I AM HERE
WITH YOU



FORGETTING HIMSELF BEGAN RECIT







THEY ENGAGED THEMSELVES IN CON-
VERSATION

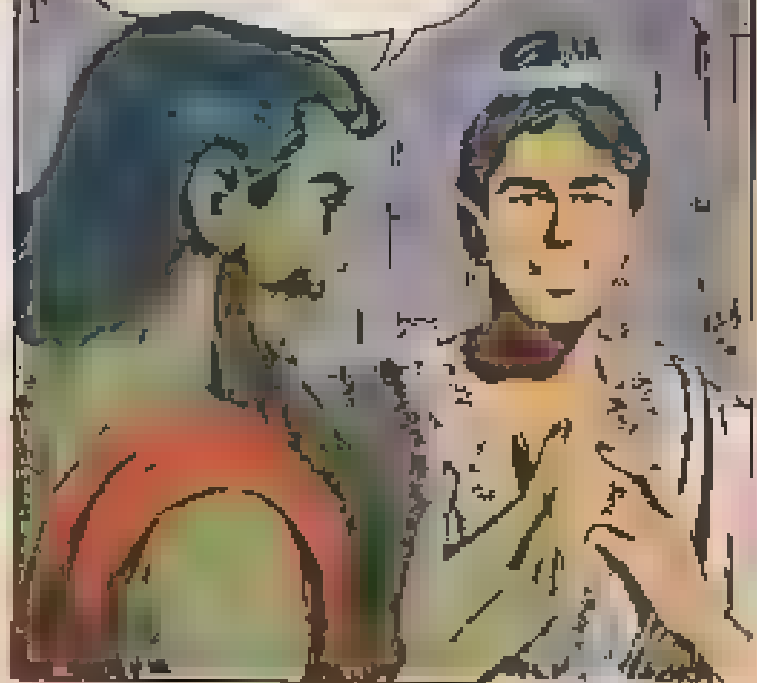
WHO AMONG MEN,
IS THE MOST PERFECT
ONE, O NARADA?

RAMA WHO
IS THE
BEST FINE KING
OF ARUNJAYA



LET ME TELL YOU
THE WONDERFUL
STORY OF RAMA

PLEASE BEGIN
I AM IMPATIENT TO
HEAR IT



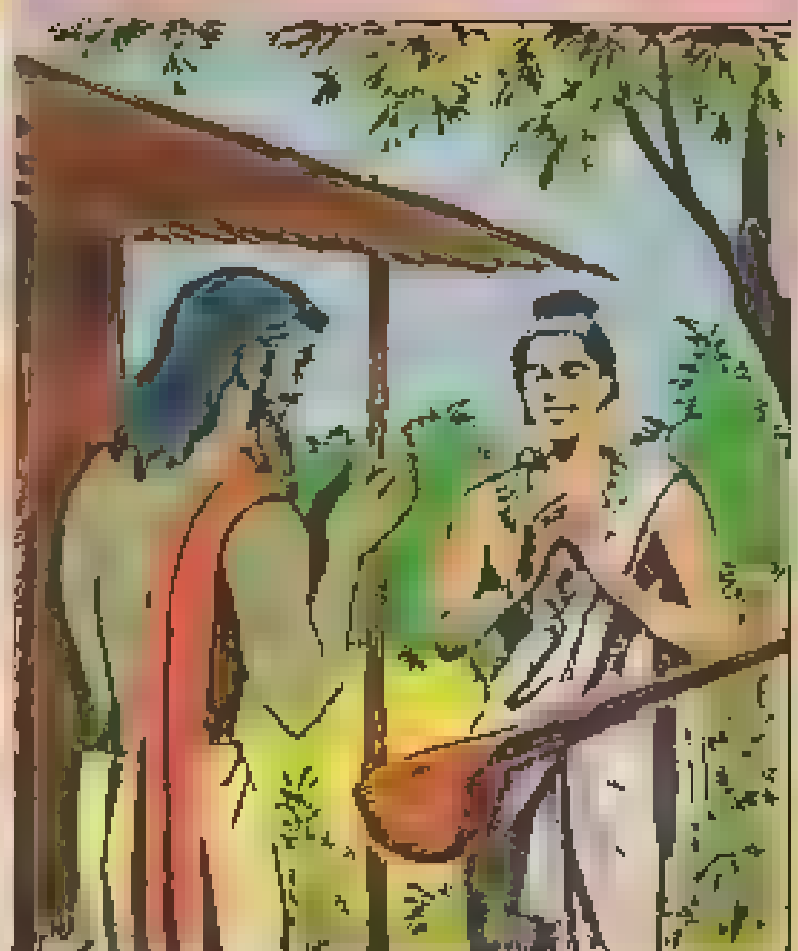
NARADA NARRATED THE WONDERFUL STORY.

I HAVE TOLD
YOU ALL I KNOW

WHAT A FASCINATING
STORY I AM GRATEFUL
TO YOU,
O NARADA



NARADA TOOK LEAVE OF SITA



EVER AFTER, THE STORY REMAINED
FRESH IN JALNAKI'S MIND, JUST
AS HE HAD HEARD IT

ALL THE TIME I CAN
THINK OF NOTHING
ELSE. STRANGE



HE CALLED ONE OF HIS PUPILS.

AM GOING TO
THE TAMASA RIVER FOR
A BATH. COME
WITH ME

YES
MASTER,
I FOLLOW.

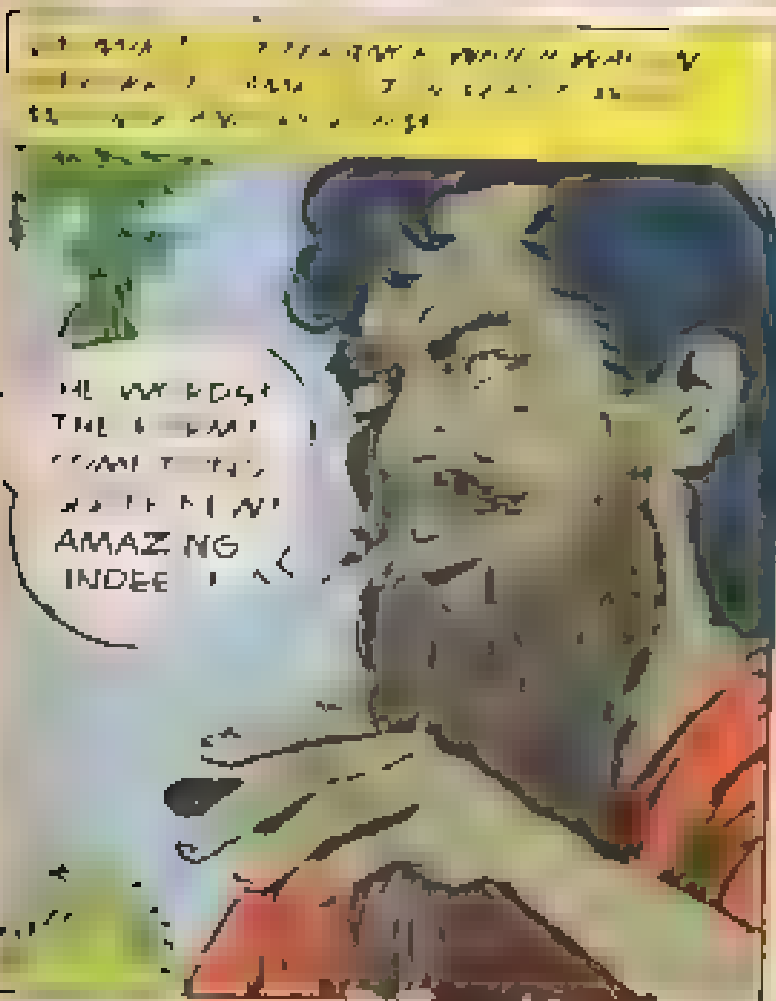


THE PUPIL
HAS DECKED HERSELF
IN ALL HER FINERY

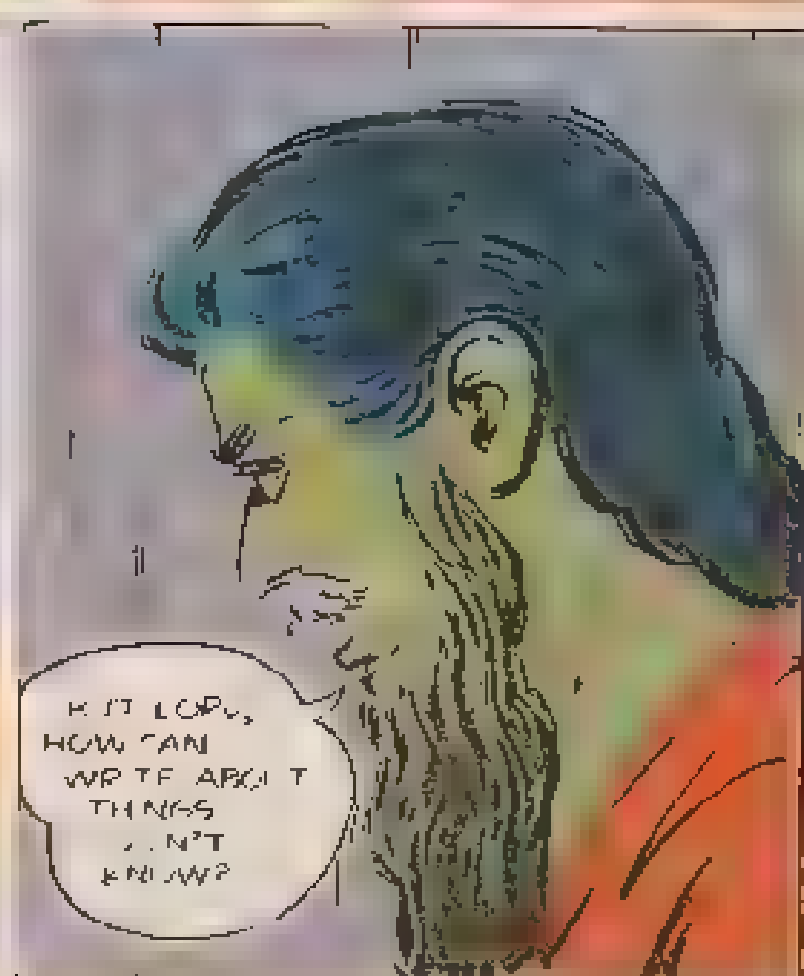


COOLING





THAT DAY HE HAD A VISITOR FROM HIM
THE SALVATOR HIMSELF.



WHATSOEVER KNOWLEDGE YOU DO NOT POSSESS
SHALL BE REVEALED TO YOU AS LONG AS MOUNTAINS
AND SEAS EXIST ON EARTH, SO LONG WILL
MY RAMAYANA
LIVE

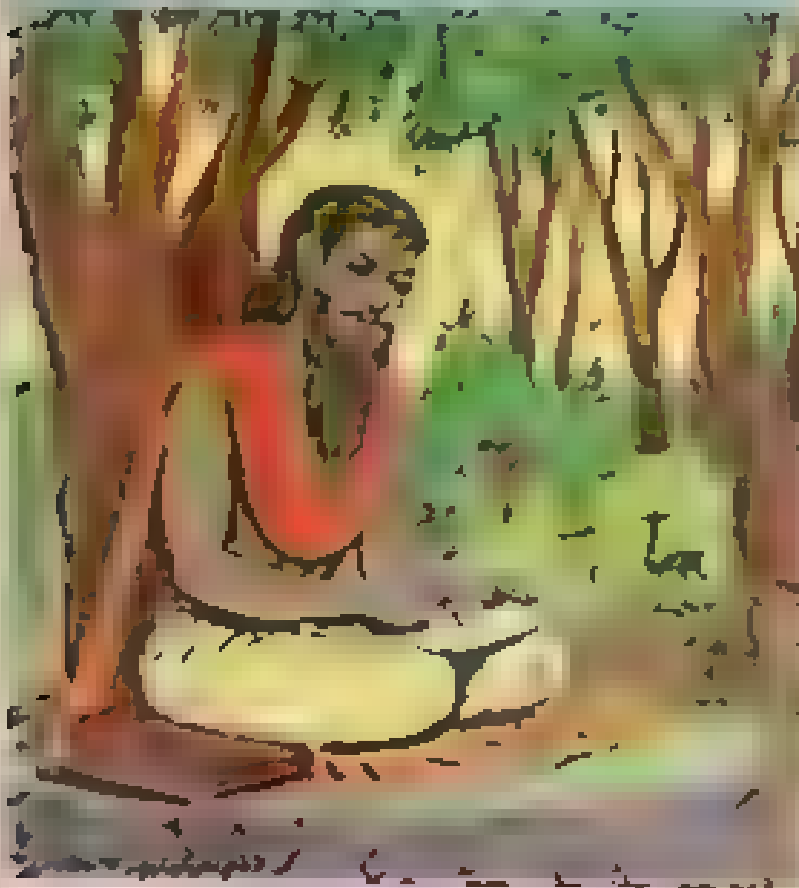
GLORIE
LOVED

VA MUKHA! IN HIS MEDITATION HE
SAW EVERY INCIDENT IN THE RAMAYANA
AS IT TOOK PLACE IN THE PAST
IS NOW

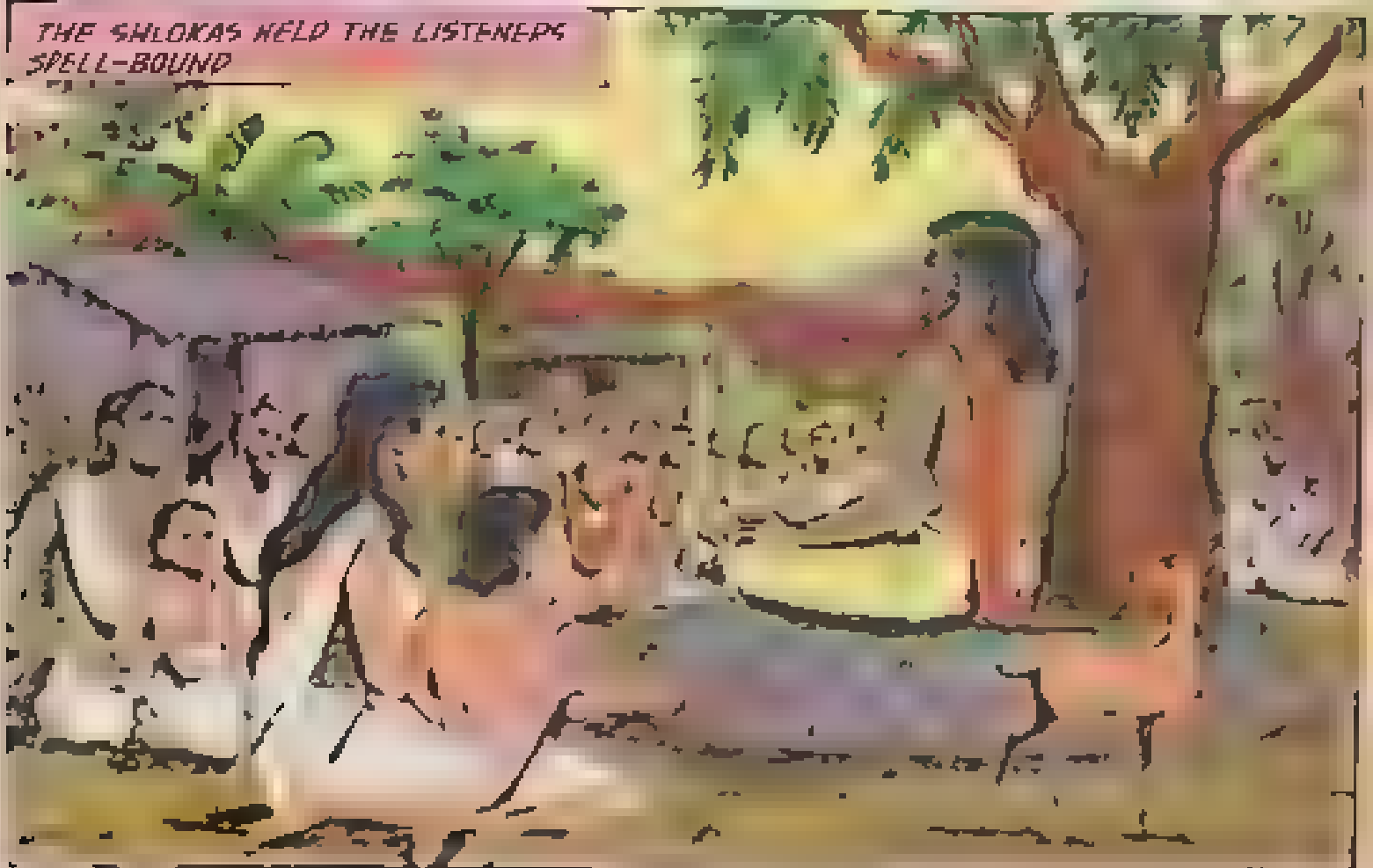
RAMA'S
CORONATION

AH, HOW
CLEAR IS MY
VISION

AFTERWARDS, HE WROTE THE GLORIOUS
EPI

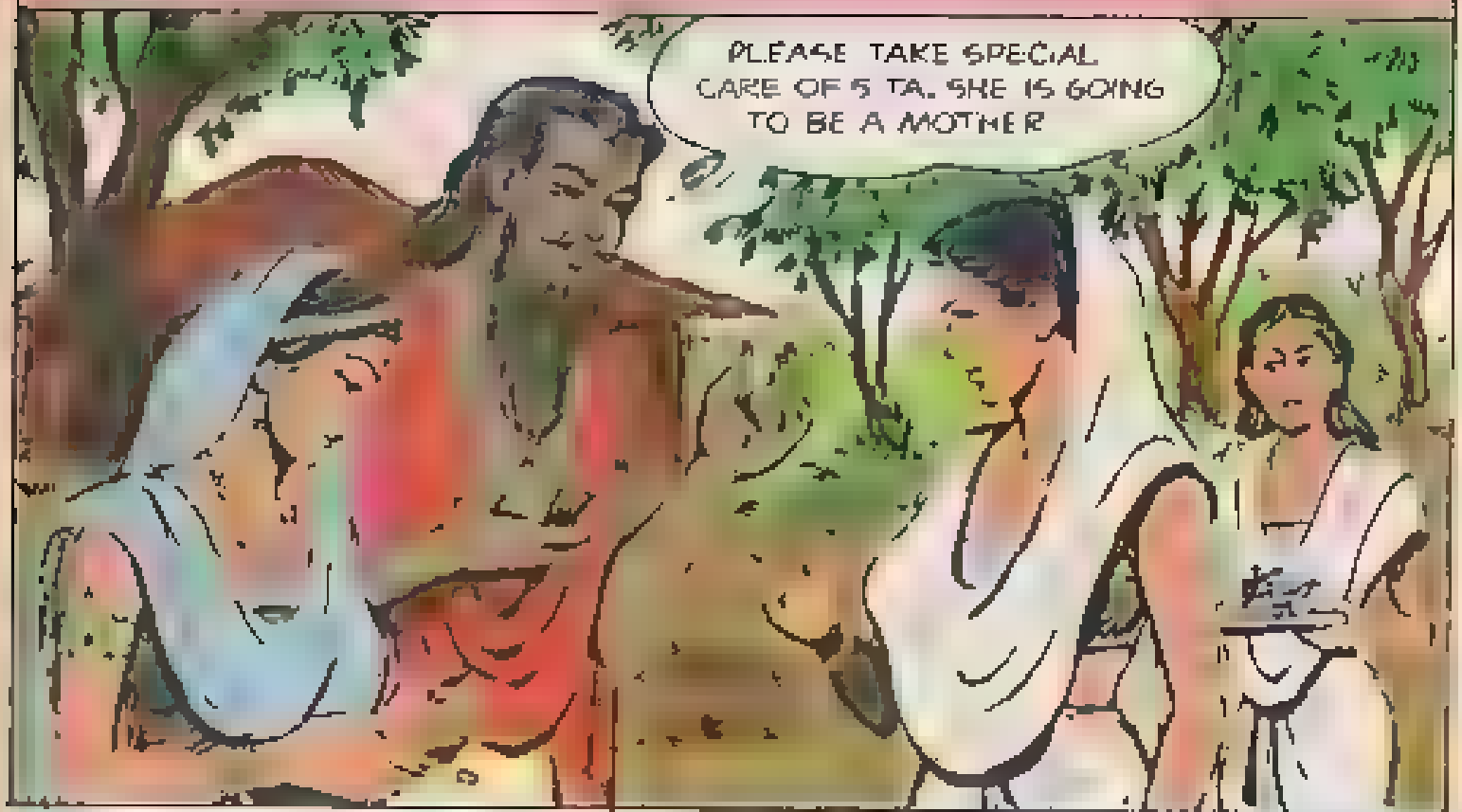


THE SHLOKAS HELD THE LISTENERS
SPELL-BOUND









AND ALL THE VANDY THINGS HE DID NOT DO, HE WENT TO THE LANDS AND TO THE ACCOMPANIMENT OF THE VEENA

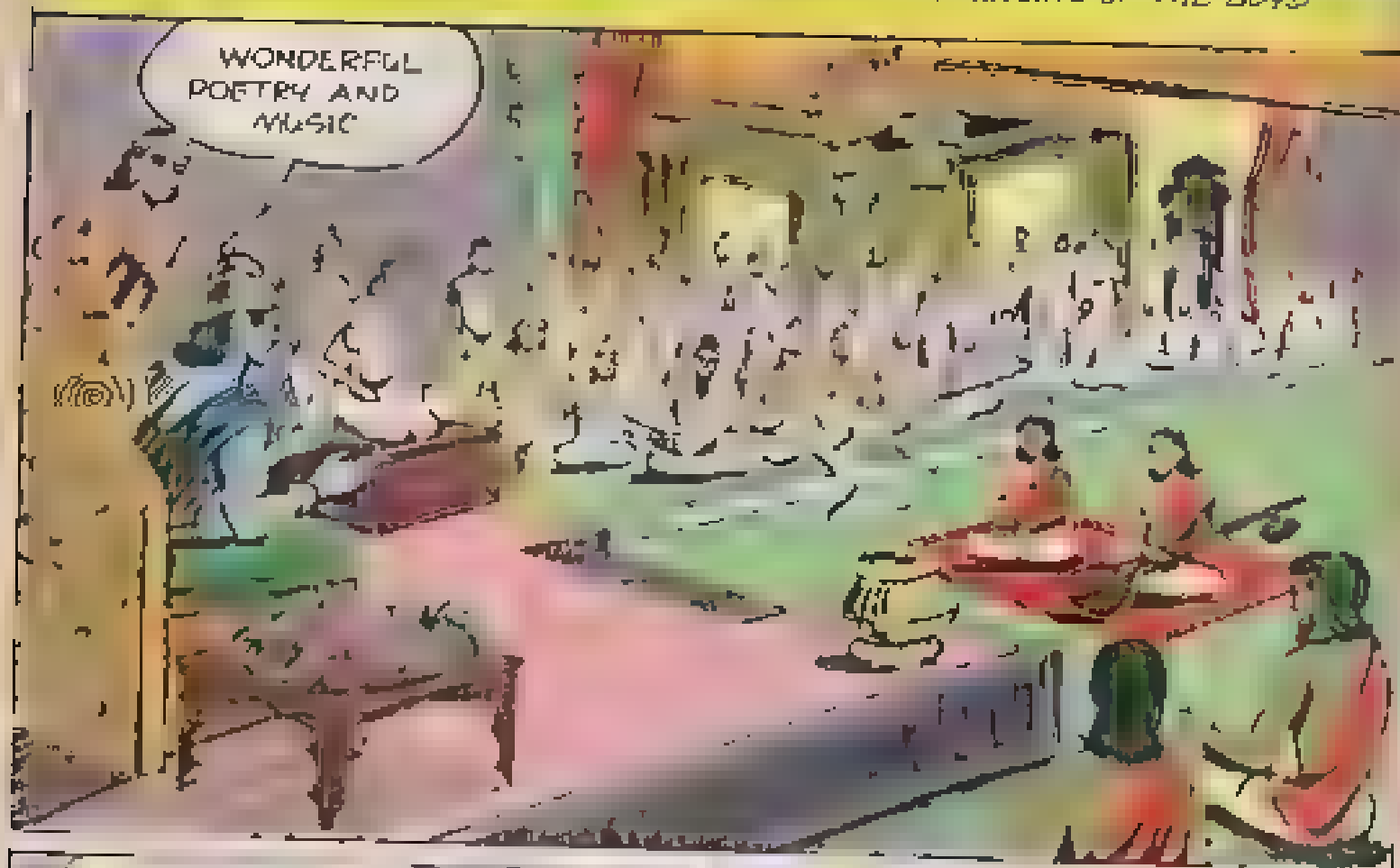


LUV AND KUSH WENT TO NAIMISHA, THE VENUE OF THE SACRIFICE



... AND THE AL FAMILIAR WERE ENTERTAINED BY THE SINGING OF THE BOYS

WONDERFUL
POETRY AND
MUSIC



... WHEN WE
FEELER... THINKS AT
ME AM?

...
NAI...
A MIK!



... WITH, IN THE FAIR

... WE ARE...
... VA TAP!



RAMA GAVE AN ORDER TO HIS MINISTER

I AM MIGHTILY PLEASED WITH THE PERFORMANCE OF THESE ROVES. GIVE THEM EIGHTEEN THOUSAND GOLD COINS



WE DO NOT ACCEPT MONEY. WE ARE GOING

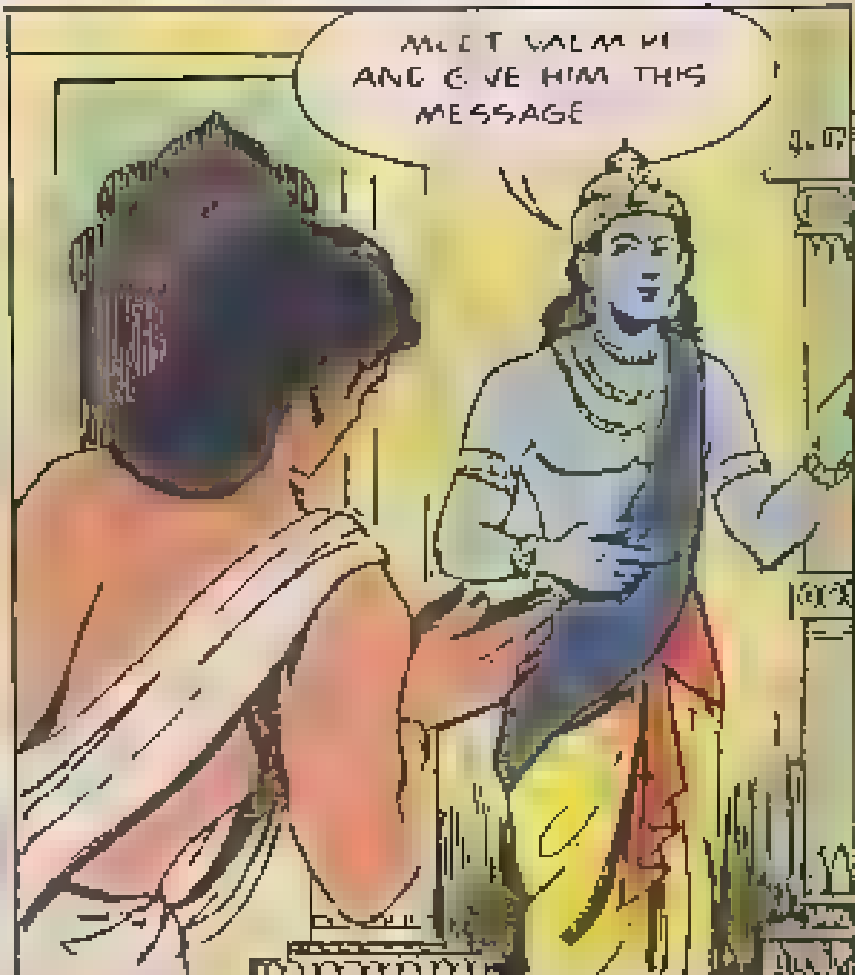


LATER THE TRUTH DAWNED ON RAMA

THE BOYS ARE MY OWN SONS. SITA IS THEIR MOTHER. I WILL SEND FOR SITA



MEET VALMUKI AND GIVE HIM THIS MESSAGE





THIS IS
REALLY
SURPRISING





THE INMATES OF THE HERMITAGE BADE A A TRIPEL: PART II.



THE INMATES OF THE HERMITAGE BADE A A TRIPEL: PART III.



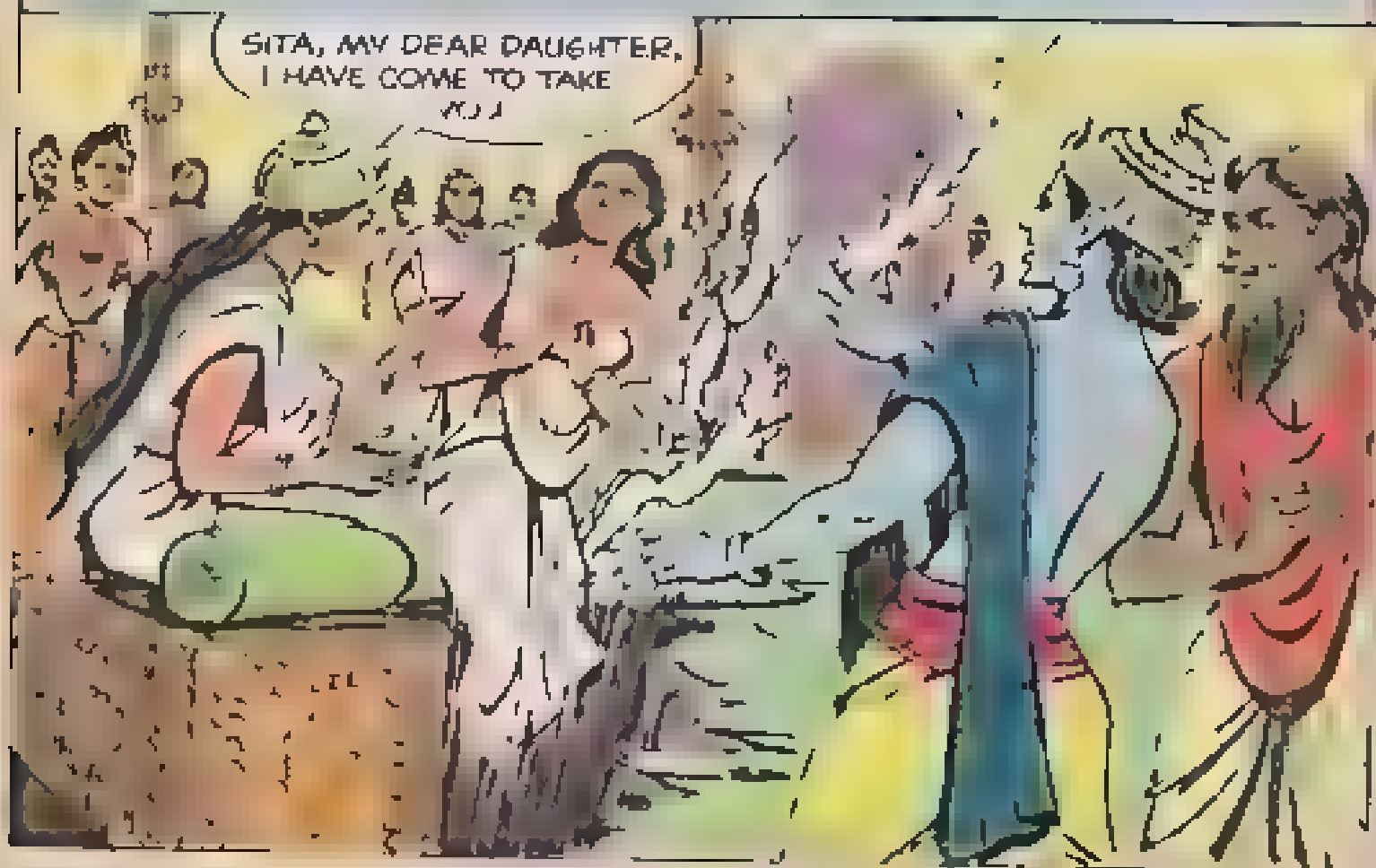
MA
 IN THE BELL, MY
 VISHU VISHU,
 (1) (2) (3)
 (4) (5) (6)

ALL THE NEW TENTS ON THE
 VALLEY A. SITA.

I LAMA TAKE FULL & THE IF IT
 CAN BE TAKE OF SITA OF LAMA & LAMA
 THAT ARE IS WITH IN
 MANUALLY IT



AND IN A MIRACLE TURN OF THE EARTH BEHOLD ITSELF AND UP I AM BHODRAI DEVI SITTING ON HER THRONE



THE GODDESS OF EARTH LIFTED SITA TO THE THRONE AND DISAPPEARED DOWN THE OPENING WITH HER.



SITA!
MY SITA!

AND VALMIKI LEFT THE SCENE OF THE SACRIFICE
FOR HIS HERMITAGE TO CONTINUE HIS ASCETIC
LIFE.





SUCH WAS VALMIKI,
AUTHOR OF THE RAMAYANA.
THROUGH THE CENTURIES
HIS WORK HAS LIVED.
THE SAME AS WHEN HE
WROTE IT FOR HIS OWN
PLEASURE AND THAT OF
GENERATIONS TO COME.
AND IT WILL LIVE, AS
BRAHMA SAID, TILL THE
MOUNTAINS AND THE
SEAS EXIST ON
THE EARTH.

PUBLISHED IN ENGLISH, HINDI, MARATHI, GUJARATI, TELUGU,
TAMIL, MALAYALAM, KANNADA AND BENGALI.

KRISHNA
BHAGAVAT
THE PANDAVA PRINCES
SAVITRI
THE STORY OF RAMA
NALA DAMAYANTI
HARISCHANDRA
THE SONS OF RAMA
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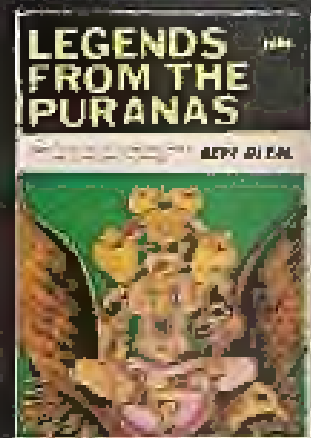
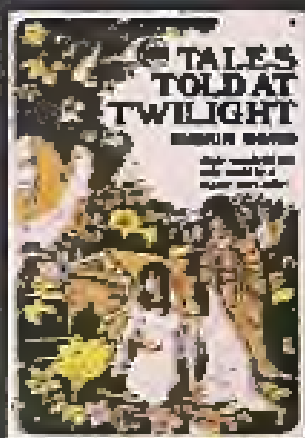
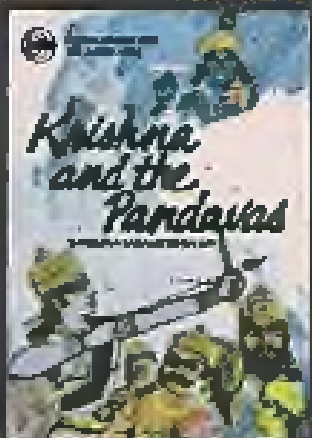
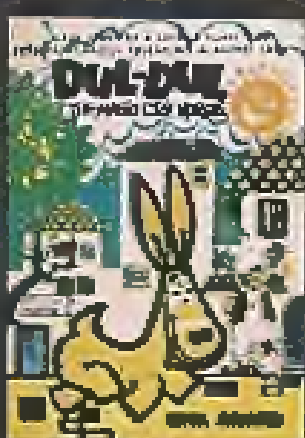
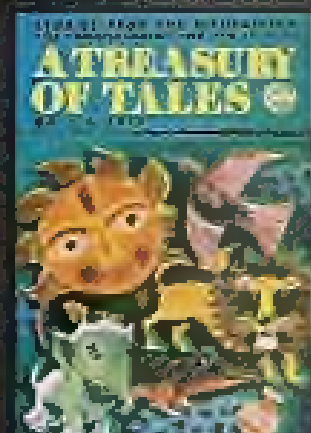
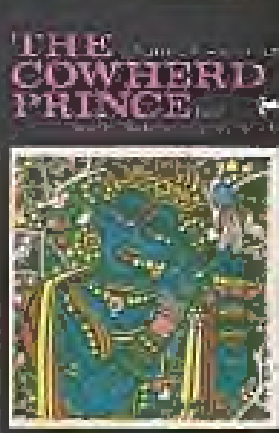
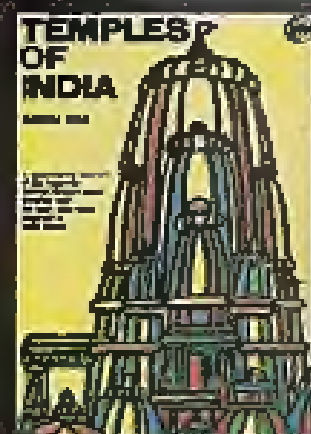
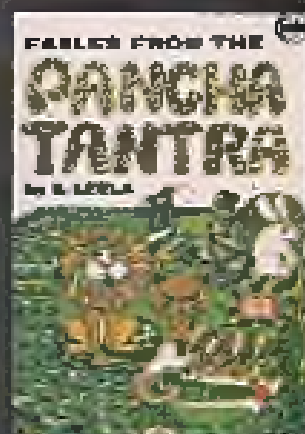
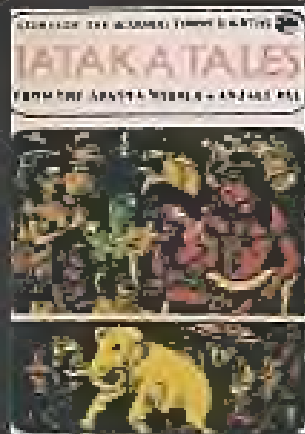
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